

QUAINT FURNITURE.

Something About Country Auctions and Colonial Trappings.

Second-Hand Goods and Their Advantages—Bargains in Old and Ancient Furniture From Queer Places.



A JAPANESE CLAW-FOOT CHAIR—VERY OLD "SQUARE TABLE."

At a New York auction one rainy day, when the rooms were filled with goods and the buyers were few in number, I saw a large hair mattress sold for \$3.75 and three pillows filled with the softest of live geese feathers for \$1.40 each.



A SWISS SMOKING CHAIR.

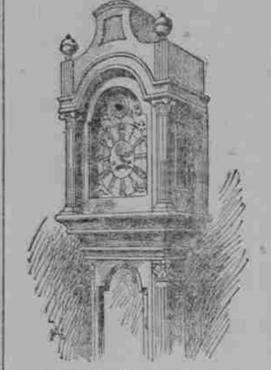
feathers for \$1.40 each. Two very handsome, though slightly worn, rags, six feet long and three wide, were sacrificed at \$3 each. A folding bed with mirror front

the fact it is possible to enjoy a wide latitude in taste. As incomes mount towards the \$3,000 limit, where two people are practically millionaires, decorators take matters in hand and furnish a room with that evil "simplicity" which costs \$2,000. It is almost a certainty that they will purchase old furniture for you at rates which are exorbitant, having been fixed by dealers who know the full value of Chippendale or Sheraton. But there is a method of purchase which outdoes anything published in "bargains." It is the New England auction sale of household goods, where claw-footed tables and mahogany dressers are sold for \$3.

Cape Cod and, in fact, the Southern States, have been swept of their "old colonial," but New Hampshire and Southern Vermont still possess their ancient treasures.

If you would be bidders at one of these forced sales cannot personally attend, it is a good idea to write to friends in the vicinity and ask them to purchase for you. It was only a few months ago that in Central New Hampshire, a New York woman bought a solid mahogany four-post colonial bed for \$6. A magnificent eight-day clock, made in Hartford during the last century, went for \$1 on the auctioneer's confession that it did not keep "very good time." An old dresser, whose oval mirror seemed to reflect the faces of patched and powdered dames of Revolutionary days, brought \$10. At a New Jersey sale in one of the interior towns these prices were equalled. Some rare blue china plates were bought for \$6 a dozen, while the cups and saucers were valued at \$3.

Now and then one comes across a genuine



TIME DURING QUEEN ANNE'S REIGN.

Sheraton or a Chippendale, but they are becoming extremely rare. The ball and claw and the Windsor chairs are, perhaps, the most common of the old make, but they are by no means easy to prove genuine. The colonial claw foot was first manufactured in 1770 and was modeled after the Chinese and Japanese ball and claw, of

tion of the manufacture of perfume. He said that the Hebrews made the best perfume, and imparted their knowledge to their captives, the Egyptians. Their civilization increased as it passed along, went to the Greeks, the Romans and to the Moors. The French got their knowledge from the Moors and added to it, so that they now lead the world in making perfumery.

"You will see French-made perfume," said the dealer, "in almost every market in the world. However, their greatest profit in this line is in preparing the ingredients for export. Here in New York we make a great deal of perfume, but all the raw material comes from France. This raw material reaches us in the shape of grease extract or pomade. This is melted down here with alcohol and made up. The lard used in this pomade comes from hogs fed in the acorn groves of Italy. The lard from the swill and grain-fed domestic hog would be too gross."

"The grease takes up the odor given out by the flowers. It is then melted from the glass and run into vessels for export. You see that lard is one of the chief ingredients of our finest perfumes. In this form the perfume reaches this city, where the manufacture proper begins. All sorts of perfumes are called 'indouage' and is an old one. Most of the flowers are raised in France and Belgium. Large farms are entirely devoted to their culture. At the beginning of blooming season women and children gather the blossoms and place them in wooden frames with glass bottoms. They are covered with finely clarified grease."

"Not at all. There are several other scents. Musk is the most important and the most expensive. It is obtained from the musk deer of the mountains of India, China and Tibet. When it is adulterated it is worth twice its weight in gold. The fecundity of its odor is so great that in an area of five feet a grain gives out 57,399,600 particles without undergoing any appreciable diminution in weight. Another expensive ingredient of perfume is ambergris. This comes from the sperm whale and is found floating in the water where the whales disport themselves. Another of this cost about \$25. The vanilla bean, from Mexico, oil of lavender from England and France, patchouly from China, and sandal wood from India are all used to make perfume. Poppy seed oil is also used, and the best in the world comes from Wayne county, N. Y. Long Island furnishes excellent sassafras and Florida and California large quantities of orange blossoms."

The dealer said that most of the perfume bottles used are made in this country, except the very fancy ones. They are from France and Belgium. The manufacture of these bottles gives employment to hundreds of persons.—New York Mail and Express.

When weak, weary and worn out, Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine to restore your strength and give you a good appetite.



MILLIONAIRE DEBUTANTES OF NEW YORK.

went at \$11, while a carved oak bedstead brought \$6.00. When conditions are fortuitous some extraordinary bargains may be driven with the auctioneer. To succeed, the bidder must put the offer down as an unconditional bid; he must not be credited, nor listened to, nor needed, for he is an artist in cheating. It is quite possible even then, however, to wear him out and buy at an undoubted reduction, for the man is bound to dispose of his wares after a certain length of time.

An auction in a house seized for debt, where everything is known to be genuine, is a safe field for purchasers. Strange to say, the furniture of such a house may be bought for a nominal sum, while bric-a-brac and pictures are bidden for with spirit. Auction sales may save many dollars, but the buyer must not be a novice in observation of the crowd, the auctioneer and his necessities.

Second-hand furniture certainly removes the ornate attributes from the new house, but otherwise it is a good investment. In a little out of the way, nondescript store I discovered six pieces of furniture—the ordinary parlor suit—covered with Wilton runs of good quality for \$48. They were very slightly worn and dusty, but entirely serviceable. A counterpart of the goods was valued in an uptown house at \$80. If buyers would multiply their pride and search diligently in humble localities for riches unclaimed they might have pleasant homes, where taste as well as bitter necessity has sway.



SQUARE TABLE.

Hot a man must care more than \$1,200 a year before he can insist upon harmonies in coloring. At present it is fashionable to furnish lists with odd pieces of different periods, with only a common tint to base relationship upon. That is not inexpensive by any means, but by timely detraction of

which an illustration is here given. About 1770 the handsome Chippendale ball and claw chairs, with their open interlocking back of carved wood and their bawdy legs, became common. The Windsor, with its fan-shaped wooden back and hard cushionless seats, belong to the period 1790.

Of the tables which are rare, there is the square table with drawers underneath the board belonging to the first part of the eighteenth century. Dressers, chairs, beds, chests of drawers, everything made in America until 1830 is titled indiscriminately "Colonial."

But of course the manufacturers of colonial period of this time differ decidedly in taste. The delicate carved dressers are, especially, to be desired for their quaint and curious carvings, and the clocks of the Queen Anne period for their rare old woods.

It is possible to judge of the period to which furniture belongs by its wood. In Massachusetts black walnut, in Connecticut wild cherry were used in cabinet work until 1780, when mahogany came into the market. After that date this beautiful wood was used for the best furniture, but now its value is not greater than the rich old cherry or sturdy oak of an earlier period.

A dealer in American perfumes was telling that the French are now but little ahead of us in the manufacture of perfumery. He said that there are now some commission houses that are not content to supply a great part of the home market, but are exporting their specialties. He also said that some of the essentials of good perfumes are found in their best state in this country.

BOOTH WAS VERY MAD.

The Famous Tragedian Tried to "Do Up" a Member of His Company During a Stage Duet.

"I never saw but one man that I was really afraid of," said Archer Van Camp, now a guest of the Laedle. "That man was the elder Booth. I had the honor to play minor parts in the supporting company during his last season but one. One night three prominent members of the company were ill. At least they were supposed to be. The plain facts are that they were too drunk to do any of their things. Booth was furious. He was half a madman anyhow, and that night he became perfectly demoralized with rage. The bill was Richard III, and it was Richard's understudy, I watched Booth narrowly throughout the play. His anger, instead of abating, appeared to grow more violent. I attended the duel scene at the finale. I was but an indifferent swordsman, while Booth could have given a Scottish chief odds with the broadsword. Even in his haymop mood he was regarded as dangerous with a piece of steel in his hand, and that night I seriously contemplated making a sneak and leaving him to perish in his own chair. When the scene came on he rushed at me as though I were the veritable apant to the throne of England, and his blows were delivered with a rapidity and vigor that was appalling. I managed to keep my head and fenced with unusual skill. I firmly believe that he tried to kill me. Luckily he slipped and fell, dropping his sword. I kicked it beyond his reach and so the curtain before he could renew hostilities. But I gave him to distinctly understand, more and then, that I would never play Richard to his Richard again, and I didn't."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

IN OLDEN TIMES.

People overlooked the importance of permanently beneficial effects and were satisfied with transient action, but now that it is generally known that Syrup of Figs will permanently cure habitual constipation, well-informed people will not buy other laxatives, which act for a time, but finally injure the system.

A SURE CURE FOR PILES.

Itching Piles are known by moisture like perspiration, causing intense itching when warm. This form as well as blind, bleeding or protruding, yield at once to Dr. Bosanko's Pile Remedy, which acts directly on parts affected, absorbs tumors, always itching and effects a permanent cure. 50c. Druggists or mail. Circulars free. Dr. Bosanko, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by Goddard's Drug Co., Corner Main and First Streets.

ROYAL CRISTAL SALT aids digestion.

Advertisement for Cohn Bros. featuring 'THIS WEEK THIS WEEK THIS WEEK' and 'This Week.' The ad lists various clothing items like silks, dress goods, and children's cloaks with prices and agents. It also includes a testimonial about a man named Booth and information about a sure cure for piles.